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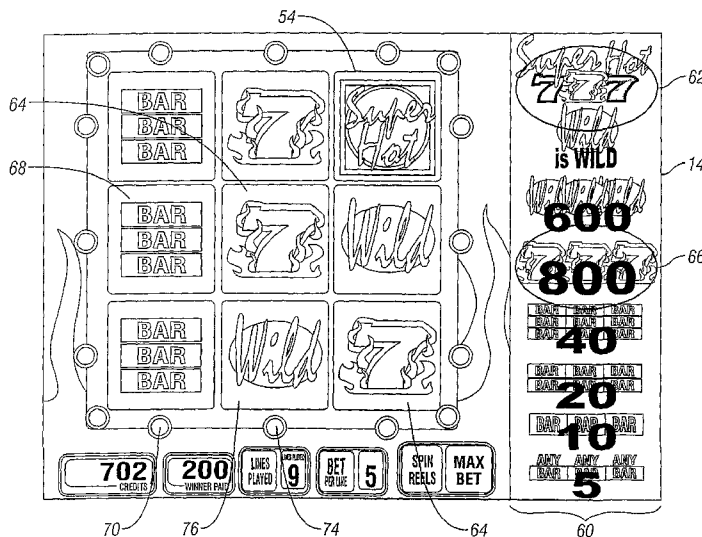
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(54) **Title:** GAMING MACHINE WITH SYMBOL ENHANCEMENTS BASED ON WINNING OUTCOMES



(57) **Abstract:** A wagering game in a gaming machine includes symbols that are associated with multiple payoff levels. The symbols may have their payoff levels incremented and decremented based on certain predefined criteria. The criteria may be based on a winning outcome, random selection, the position of the symbols, the configuration of the symbols, and the like. As some symbols have their payoff levels incremented, other symbols have their payoff levels decremented. Each symbol may be graphically rendered in a manner to distinctively indicate the particular payoff level currently assigned to that symbol. In this way, the wagering game maintains a dynamic mix of symbols having different payoff levels and graphical renderings.

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 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
X	US 6,068,552 A (Walker et al) 30 May 2000 (30 05 2000)	1-6, 9, 11-20
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Y		7, 8, 10
A	US 6,485,367 B1 (Joshi) 26 November 2002 (26 11 2002)	1-20
	---see entire document---	
A	US 6,663,487 B1 (Ladner) 16 December 2003 (16 12 2003)	1-20
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A	US 6,712,693 B1 (Hettinger) 30 March 2004 (30 03 2004)	1-20
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